

Atty. ~~cket~~: VASC 1020-2 USIn The Claims

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12-18, 24, and 28-37, 44, 58, 63-73 and 79-100, add claims 101-107 and amend claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 19, 23, 26, 27, 38, 43 and 74 as follows. All pending claims are included for convenient reference.

Sub  
51  
3. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~2~~ 40 wherein the delay-release material comprises a biodegradable, delay-release layer.

A1  
4. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein the dispensable agent is microencapsulated using a biodegradable encapsulation material so as to delay migration of said drug from said prosthesis.

62  
8. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein said body has longitudinally extending side members and cross members connecting said side members.

9. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein said body is made of metal.

03  
11. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein the prosthesis comprises turns, adjacent ones of said turns touching one another when in the radially-expanded state.

04  
19. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 further comprising first and second dispensable agents.

20. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 19 wherein said first agent is layered on top of said second agent.

21. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 19 wherein said first agent is dispensable prior to the start of dispensing of the second agent.

22. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 19 wherein at least half of said first agent is dispensable prior to the start of dispensing of the second agent.

05  
23. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein said material is a porous material.

25. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 23 wherein said porous material has an inner surface which is substantially impervious to the passage of blood therethrough.

06  
26. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein the dispensable agent is selected from the group comprising: anti-inflammatory drugs, anti-thrombotic/anti-platelet drugs, anti-proliferative drugs, apoptosis-inducing drug, light activated drug, and biological materials.

27. (Amended) The prosthesis according to claim ~~1~~ 38 wherein the dispensable agent comprises an anti-restenotic agent.

07  
38. (Amended) A prosthesis, for use within a hollow body structure of a patient, comprising:

a coiled body having radially-extending openings formed therethrough, the body movable from a radially-contracted state to a radially-expanded state;

a coiled sleeve of material extending along a coiled path, the material having an inner surface and an outer surface and defining the sleeve interior containing the coiled body; and

a dispensable, biologically active agent on at least one of said inner surface of the material or and within the sleeve interior, said dispensable agent being dispensable into a hollow body structure of a patient

39. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 38 wherein the dispensable agent comprises an anti-restenotic agent.

40. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 38 further comprising a delay-release material associated with the dispensable agent to delay the release of the dispensable agent into the hollow body structure.

41. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 38 wherein said prosthesis comprises spaced apart turns defining gaps therebetween when in the radially-expanded state.

42. (Original) The prosthesis according to claim 38 wherein said material comprises porous PTFE.

43. (Amended) A method for delivering a biologically active agent to a target site within a hollow body structure of a patient, comprising:

selecting a coiled prosthesis comprising a coiled body having longitudinally extending side members and cross members connecting said side members, the coiled body having radially-extending openings formed therethrough, a material extending along a coiled path along the entire coiled body, and a dispensable, biologically active agent associated with at least one of the coiled body and the material;

delivering the coiled prosthesis to a target site within a hollow body structure of a patient, the prosthesis being in a radially-contracted state, ~~the prosthesis comprising a coiled body having radially-extending openings formed therethrough, a material extending along a coiled path along the entire coiled body, and a dispensable, biologically active agent associated with at least one of the coiled body and the material;~~

radially expanding the prosthesis from the radially-contracted state to a radially-expanded state so to press the prosthesis against a wall of the hollow body structure; and

releasing the agent into the hollow body structure.

45. (Original) The method according to claim 43 wherein the radially expanding step is carried out with a prosthesis comprising spaced apart turns defining gaps therebetween when in the radially-expanded state.
46. (Original) The method according to claim 43 wherein the radially expanding step is carried out with a prosthesis comprising turns which touch one another when in the radially-expanded state.
47. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting a prosthesis in which the material comprises a coiled sleeve of material, said coiled sleeve of material having inner and outer surfaces, said inner surface defining a sleeve interior containing the entire coiled body.
48. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting a prosthesis in which the agent comprises first and second dispensable agents.
49. (Original) The method according to claim 48 further comprising selecting a prosthesis having said first agent layered on top of said second agent.
50. (Original) The method according to claim 48 wherein the releasing step is carried out so that at least a portion of said first agent is released prior to the start of release of the second agent.
51. (Original) The method according to claim 48 wherein the controllably releasing step is carried out so that at least half of said first agent is released prior to the start of release of the second agent.
52. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting a prosthesis comprising porous material as said material.
53. (Original) The method according to claim 52 wherein the selecting step is carried out by selecting a prosthesis with said porous material comprising ePTFE.
54. (Original) The method according to claim 52 wherein the selecting step is carried out by selecting a prosthesis with said porous material has a surface which is substantially impervious to the passage of blood therethrough.
55. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting a prosthesis having a delay-release material associated with the dispensable agent.
56. (Original) The method according to claim 55 wherein the selecting step is carried out by selecting a prosthesis in which the delay-release material comprises a biodegradable, delay-release material.
57. (Original) The method according to claim 55 wherein the selecting step is carried out by selecting a prosthesis in which the delay-release material comprises a delay-release layer covering the dispensable agent.
59. (Original) The method according to claim 55 wherein the selecting step is carried out by selecting a prosthesis in which the delay-release material comprises a biodegradable polymer.

60. (Original) The method according to claim 55 wherein the delay-release material comprises a protective layer, and further comprising removing the protective layer from the coiled body and material therewith thereby exposing the coiled body and material therewith.

61. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting a prosthesis comprising a dispensable agent selected from the group comprising: anti-inflammatory drugs, anti-thrombotic/anti-platelet drugs, anti-proliferative drugs, apoptosis-inducing drug, light activated drug, and biological materials.

62. (Original) The method according to claim 43 further comprising selecting an anti-restenotic agent as the dispensable agent.

74. (Amended) A method for delivering a biologically active agent to a target site within a hollow body structure of a patient, comprising:

delivering a coiled prosthesis to a target site within a hollow body structure of a patient, the prosthesis being in a radially-contracted state, the prosthesis comprising a coiled body having radially-extending openings formed therethrough, a coiled sleeve of material extending along a coiled path, the coiled sleeve of material comprising inner and outer surfaces, said inner surface defining a sleeve interior containing the entire coiled body, and a dispensable, biologically active agent on at least one of the inner surface of the material ~~or~~ and within the sleeve interior;

radially expanding the prosthesis from the radially-contracted state to a radially-expanded state so to press the prosthesis against the wall; and

releasing the agent ~~from the inner surface of the material and~~ into the hollow body structure.

75. (Original) The method according to claim 74 further comprising selecting an anti-restenotic agent as the dispensable agent.

76. (Original) The method according to claim 74 wherein the releasing step comprises temporally controllably releasing the agent into the hollow body structure.

77. (Original) The method according to claim 74 wherein the radially expanding step is carried out with a prosthesis comprising spaced apart turns defining gaps therebetween when in the radially-expanded state.

78. (Original) The method according to claim 74 further comprising selecting a prosthesis comprising porous PTFE as said material.

101. (New) The prosthesis according to claim 38 wherein the sleeve interior comprises regions occupied by the coiled body and open spaces not occupied by the coiled body.

102. (New) The prosthesis according to claim 101 wherein the sleeve interior is oversized relative to the coiled body so to loosely contain the coiled body.

103. (New) The method according to claim 74 wherein the delivering step is carried out with the sleeve interior comprising regions occupied by the coiled body and open spaces not occupied by the coiled body.

104. (New) The method according to claim 103 wherein the delivering step is carried out with the sleeve interior being oversized relative to the coiled body so to loosely contain the coiled body.

105. (New) The prosthesis according to claim 38 wherein the agent comprises an NO generator.

106. (New) The method according to claim 43 wherein the selecting step comprises choosing an agent comprising an NO generator.

107. (New) The method according to claim 74 wherein the delivering step comprises choosing an agent comprising an NO generator.